

Application No.: 10/009,018

Docket No.: 64098-0893

REMARKS

Claims 7 and 8 have been amended and claims 9 and 11 have been canceled. No new claims have been added. Accordingly, claims 7, 8, 10 and 12 remain under prosecution in this application.

35 USC§103

Claims 7-9 and 12 are rejected under 35 USC §102 as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Ohshita. Claims 7-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 USC §102 as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Hosoya. Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 11 and also to incorporate the feature that "the second sleeve part is of a thin-wall construction". Support for this limitation is found on page 4 of the substitute specification, clean copy, second full paragraph. None of the references of record teach or suggest the use of a second sleeve portion which is of a thin wall construction. The second sleeve portion of Ohshita is generally referenced as 14 (guide block) and is not constructed from thin-wall material. Likewise, the second sleeve portion of Hosoya is generally referenced as collar 50. Collar 50 is not fabricated from thin-wall material.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: December 11, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By

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